

Park St. Apr. 26 - '55.

Dearest Mrs Chapman,

Much as we are longing to see you  
& great as will be our disappointment,  
if you leave our Island without af-  
fording us a peep at you, I fear our chance  
is slender if it rests upon my success in  
having Bristol to lie en route from London  
to Paris. The map of England would at  
once stultify my most elaborately constructed  
arguments, so I had better state plainly  
the unpleasant fact that we are 120  
miles further removed from the French  
metropolis than London. Our <sup>ordinary</sup> estab-  
route is crossing to Calais from Folkstone  
or Dover, & going thru London is the most  
expeditious way of reaching those towns.  
So unless you can take Bristol by making  
a circuit in your journey to London, or  
spare time to come down from London

on purpose I fear our present oyster-like  
destination will be an insuperable  
barrier to our meeting you. I am exceedingly  
ly sorry <sup>to think this,</sup> for, apart from the personal  
delight at seeing you & hearing of our beloved  
friends whom you have left in France,  
there is much pertaining to the Cause  
that I have felt very anxious to talk  
over with you. My tutoring in the  
school of resignation has, however,  
hardened me to all these losses of hoped  
for prosps. I am fast becoming content  
to let the Cause take care of itself, & to feel  
when people apply to me for information  
<sup>when they would</sup> & throw the burden of unclogging locked  
wheels of the A.S. machine on me, that it  
is no business of mine, <sup>that</sup> things must set-  
tle or unsettle themselves without my  
acting the part of medium or pilot. Your  
dear friend Mr Pillsbury had his way  
mapped out for him by some competent  
& sympathizing adviser I should make  
my mind perfectly cosy about all the rest;

but he anxiously consults me about  
his movements & I am not so circum-  
stanced as to be able to shape them  
for him, - to write to friends in different  
towns so as to get the ground & pave  
his way: He is not one who can force  
a passage for himself, he is far too diffi-  
dent. I think he wishes to visit the  
continent - before returning to America,  
but has not courage to start upon a  
solitary tour. His health needs care  
& rest, there is at times a morbid sensi-  
tiveness about him which indicates  
his unfitness for warfare. His Boston  
correspondents quote me as urging his  
prolonged sojourn in this country, but  
rather more strongly than my letters justify.  
For whenever the subject has been mooted, I  
have felt that the responsibility of persuading  
him to delay his return home was too  
much for me to incur, & in testifying to  
his good influence amongst us, & stating  
our crying need of an <sup>American</sup> representative of the

Abol<sup>to</sup> being at hand to keep us alive  
- I have carefully avoided blending the  
two questions, or hazarding an opinion  
as to the propriety of Mr Pillsbury's staying  
here to help us instead of going back to  
his family & native land. I only  
maintain that it is very delightful to  
have him, & that we do want some one  
very much.

My Father sends you his love; he  
will be very sorry indeed not to see you.  
Should "way open" remember your room  
is ready for you at 47 Park St; & a loving  
welcome. My Aunt would need us prefering  
to come up for a few hours if there were a  
chance of seeing you. Will you give our  
affectionate regards to Miss Martineau  
& Believe me ever your affectionate  
Mary A. Estlin.

I sent a parcel of tracts to Paris for you about  
a fortnight ago by Mr G. Adoud. You  
must let us hear something about dear Miss  
Weston, & Emma & their patient. We have been  
reading Mr Lundy's letters in the Liberator, &  
I do like that dear old Miss Estlin Sturge!  
My Mrs Nichol have just been paying us a  
visit. They are full of warmth & unlightened zeal for  
the Cause.

Ms. A. 7. 3. 68